

IN THE CLAIMS

The pending claims are as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A rewritable optical record carrier comprising a recording stack of layers ~~with~~ in the following order:
 - a first dielectric layer;
 - a recording layer comprising a phase-change recording material;
 - a second dielectric layer; and
 - a mirror layer deposited onto the second dielectric layer side of the recording stack,characterized in that a thermal barrier layer is arranged adjacent to said first dielectric layer opposite the mirror layer.
2. (Previously Presented) The rewritable optical record carrier as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the rewritable optical record carrier further comprises a substrate carrying said stack of layers having said thermal barrier layer arranged between said first dielectric layer and said substrate.
3. (Previously Presented) The rewritable optical record carrier as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the refraction index of said thermal barrier layer is close to the refraction index of said substrate.

4. (Previously Presented) The rewritable optical record carrier as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the rewritable optical record carrier further comprises a cover layer attached to said thermal barrier layer.

5. (Previously Presented) The rewritable optical record carrier as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the refraction index of said thermal barrier layer is close to the refraction index of said cover layer.

6. (Previously Presented) The rewritable optical record carrier as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that said substrate material is polycarbonate or PMMA.

7. (Previously Presented) The rewritable optical record carrier as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that said cover layer material is polycarbonate or transparent polymer resin.

8. (Previously Presented) The rewritable optical record carrier as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said thermal barrier layer material comprises SiO_2 or Al_2O_3 as a major component.

9. (Previously Presented) The rewritable optical record carrier as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said first and second dielectric layer materials comprise one of the following components or a mixture thereof: ZnS , SiO_2 , Si_3N_4 , Al_2O_3 or Ta_2O_5 .

10. (Previously Presented) The rewritable optical record carrier as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said phase-change recording material comprises a mixture of Ge, In, Sb, and Te.